
Homophobic Lies 101: Do The Research!

1. People make a choice to be gay. If you know any/many GLBT people and you have listened to them, you would not entertain this statement as true. This is a pivotal statement used by anti-gay groups all the time. It is simple and it is powerful. Here is why. If being GLBT is a choice, then it is a conduct. Conduct is not protected by law. But, a class of people, a status of people, is protected by law. If these conservative groups can get us to believe that being GLBT is a choice, then they can hope to withhold civil rights from [gay/trans](#) people. Again, conduct is not protected but classes of people are protected.

This house of cards and lies are starting to tumble down however. In the Supreme Court, a ruling was released on June 28, 2010 for Christian Legal Society(CLS) at University of California, Hastings School of Law v Martinez. CLS contented that they were discriminating against a behavior, the homosexuality of a perspective member, when they denied admission to the group. We are all clear that state money and property cannot be used to discriminate against a class of people, but CLS said this was about behavior. In siding with Martinez, the Supreme Court decision called GLBT people a “class”; this is huge, huge. The Supreme Court has now designated GLBT people as a class, not a behavior, not a conduct. A group of people.

Forget all the myths and bigotry some groups will use to discriminate against GLBT people, the Supreme Court (and every recognized American medical, counseling and psychiatric group) understands that homosexuality/transgenderness is not a choice. They are a class or status of people. With that designation, equality will come.

I find it exceedingly sad that the State is leading the charge for social justice when God told His people over 2,700 years ago in the book of Isaiah to “spend” themselves on justice issues. (Isaiah 58: 6-12) The courts are now leading the way to end this inequality. It should have been Christians churches. We have been here before on the issues of equality for women and Black Americans. God help us; Your people betrayed a mandate and used Your name to validate discrimination.

1. People become homosexual because they were sexually abused as children or had distant father/over bearing mother or some variation on bad parenting. GLBT children are no more abused or subject to poor role models than heterosexual children. In fact, fifteen to twenty five percent of all girls were sexually abused and seven to fifteen percent of all boys. Pretty sad statistic yet, there is no scientific evidence to link abuse and orientation. None. This myth has burdened parents of GLBT children with a guilt and shame that they somehow caused their children’s orientation. Shame and blame. And, a lie.
2. Sexual orientation can be changed. Reparative therapy has been rejected by all the established and reputable American medical, psychological, psychiatric and professional counseling organizations. The overwhelming majority of people that have “changed” have: chosen to be celibate, were bisexual and not exclusively homosexual, or opt to

live a “straight” life to adhere to strong religious and social pressures. (Read my post about Sexual Orientation .) Even the leader of the largest reparative therapy group in the world, Exodus, said just this week that he still is attracted to men. This is my personal belief, I would say, that if it were not for his paycheck, status and books, he would be more truthful. I have two close friends who were leaders/founders of Exodus and they are transparent in telling the stories of the lies and lack of integrity in the Exodus- type message.

I have personally interviewed both of them (Michael Bussee and Darlene Bogle) and this reparative sex industry is a sham and a money machine. It does not work. I do not know one, not one person who has changed sexual orientation from homosexual to heterosexual. Not one. Have there been cases where some sexual abuse caused a skewed sexual view that was corrected? Sure. I would place that in the less than 1% realm. Go to Beyond Ex-Gay and Box Turtle Bulletin for reparative therapy stories. The leaders of ex-gay ministries will never say you can change orientation; they appear to say that, but listen. They even know it is a lie.

1. Efforts to change someone’s sexual orientation from homosexual to heterosexual are not harmful nor unethical. Oh really? Being GLBT is a status, not a behavior or “lifestyle” (this word drives me batty!). Constant pressure to change the core of a person is a violation of humanity and it is an abuse. Telling someone who is same-sex attracted that they must change who they are to be acceptable to family, society, God is harmful and unethical.

Ask an alcoholic or drug addict to get clean and you will see benefit. Ask an adulterer to stop cheating and you see benefit. Go on and on down the list of “bad behaviors” and encourage folks to eliminate them and you will see life and good. Then, apply this “you must change your orientation” attitude and dictate to a GLBT person, and you will see loneliness, depression, isolation and shame. I am sure people are well intentioned in wanting others to change and live “the good life” of heterosexuality. I could not change my orientation, yet, we ask others to change theirs. For our good. For their destruction.

1. Homosexuals experience a higher level of psychological disorders than do heterosexuals. Really? Reject anyone repeatedly and from all directions and from all societal institutions and you set them up for personal destruction. We have done an excellent job of sending out a message of less-thanism from every corner of society to the GLBT community—from churches, government, military and schools. Want to decrease the shame, depression, addictions, suicidal thoughts and loneliness imposed on GLBT people? Stop the rejection. Incredibly simplistic. Be loving, be accepting, be a safe place. Love, acceptance and security. That is all we each ask for. Try extending it and watch the “psychological disorders” melt away.
2. Children raised by homosexuals are not as healthy as children raised by heterosexuals and, they suffer harm. First, all studies show children do better with two parents, two, not a male and female, two parents. Want to protect children? Start by not getting divorced and letting them have two, engaged, in-the-same-house parents. Next, the majority of the children that I personally know in gay male couple families are adopted children. Children that exit the foster/state/court systems into these loving homes. In lesbian couple families, many of the children are their own children and they should be with their Mom. Let Mom have a legal partner for the security of those children. Two parents. No, none, zero studies exist to state that children raised in same-sex couple families are

harmed or suffer any more than we heterosexual parents all-stars effect them.

The courts asked the plaintiffs for proof of this accusation of damage to children in same-sex parenting homes in the Prop 8 case in California. This was the big opportunity to lay it out for all to see and guess what? No evidence was presented. None. You can lie all you want on TV and in sound bites, but in court, you must bring proof. No proof was offered. Want to make the home life of children healthier? Let them have two parents. Let GLBT couples marry and create families and security for their children.

I have specifically and intentionally spent time with my GLBT friends and their children to observe. As a mother of two grown children (both straight), I am impressed with what I have seen. GLBT people do not want to destroy family, they want to create it, with their kids and with the tossed away kids.

1. Homosexuals are more likely to molest children than heterosexuals. This lie can make a person crazy because it is such an offensive lie. This repeated nonsense has damaged relationships of GLBT people within their families and extended families. "Don't let Aunt Lesbian near the kids and surely not Uncle Gay. They will touch our kids inappropriately and use them sexually." Molestation of children is NOT an issue of orientation. Repeat, repeat, repeat. Molestation of children is about being attracted to a child's age, not gender of the child or the abuser. Repeat, repeat, repeat.

In a 2008 study of medical records in a Denver emergency room in cases of molestation, 1% had been attributed to GLBT people. The overwhelming majority of molestation is inflicted by heterosexual relatives and friends. This lie has to stop. FRC and the others quote and requote 87% of all cases of pedophilia involve a gay person. WHERE do they get this stuff? The one report they keep quoting with assurance has been thrown out as sloppy and false work by any expert of repute. Yet, the rhetoric they call the truth is robbing GLBT people of family, and family of their gay relatives. Destruction of family? Yes. For a lie.

1. Homosexuals are not seriously disadvantaged by discrimination. GLBT couples are denied 1,138 rights that a married heterosexual couple enjoys under the law. They are discriminated against in the military, in families, in churches and in society. That appears to be pretty serious disadvantage to me. Imagine, 1,138 rights denied a GLBT couple that wants to commit to love and marriage and cannot. Count to 1,138 and ask yourself: is this not discrimination?
2. Homosexuals are less likely to enter into a committed relationship, less likely to be sexually faithful to a partner, even if they have one, and are less likely to remain committed for a lifetime, than are heterosexuals. Chicken or egg? Tell people they are less-than and see what you get. Marriage is an institution in which couples establish state protected, church ordained, committed relationships. And it is denied to GLBT people. Take away marriage from heterosexual couples and imagine the results. Oh, we have that, heterosexual people living together. They don't seem to have the success rate of marriage. Serial heterosexual monogamy.

Marriage brings protection, a stronger bond of commitment and the support of family and a community. GLBT people do not enjoy the security of legal marriage in all 50 states. They do not grow up thinking "who will I marry?". Why bother, it is not a reality (yet). So, even when we do extend the right to marry to GLBT people, there will be a season of transition. And, in time,

there will be the similar percentages of success/failure in same-sex marriages as in heterosexual marriages.

1. GLBT people cannot be Christians. I devote an entire blogsite Canyonwalker Connections to this issue. The best starting place is the VERSES tab. If you believe this myth, you are ignoring a movement of God that is exploding around the world. GLBT Christians are growing in number, in spiritual maturity, in gifting and it is happening fast. The best way to see proof is to visit an affirming congregation. Go to welcomingchurches.org, call an affirming pastor in your area from the list and go see what God is doing in His GLBT children. Of course they can be Christians.

Lies are evil. Lies breed fear. Myths about people or groups become the basis for forming ideology about others. We have done it to Native Americans, immigrants over our own history, the Irish, the Germans, the Italians, the Jews, the Africans, the Mexicans, the Muslims, the Russians, the “others”. On and on. If we repeat the myth enough, maybe it will gain muddy traction and stick. This is what FRC and other Hate Groups do so well. They demonize the gay community. I think they actually believe they are good and fighting the good fight and hanging on to all that is sacred and holy. But, they are lying. That is discrimination. And, while they are doing it, they are causing destruction, that is hate. Maybe the public backlash of being designated a Hate Group will shame them to reassess their message.

Now, the final word as a Christian. I think there is something worse than making the SPLC's Hate Groups List. My first concern would be “am I pleasing God?”. We all, all, have an image of God in us. We are called to love, respect and serve others. We are called to be shining lights in which others can see some piece of Jesus. Imagine a kicked-out-of-church gay man, a shamed-by-her-family lesbian, a suicidal Mormon teen who knows that honesty means losing family and church, two men that want desperately to get married and build a family, a young bisexual girl who cuts herself in the shame and pain of her sexuality and religious oppression. God loves every one of these people, the same way He loves me. God, in His Word, and Jesus, in His life, told me to treat everyone with equality and love. If the church cannot police our own, perhaps God is using secular organizations to slap His children upside the head? Would not be the first time. I will stand with, beside and in front of my GLBT fellow humans to ensure that they gain equality with me.

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